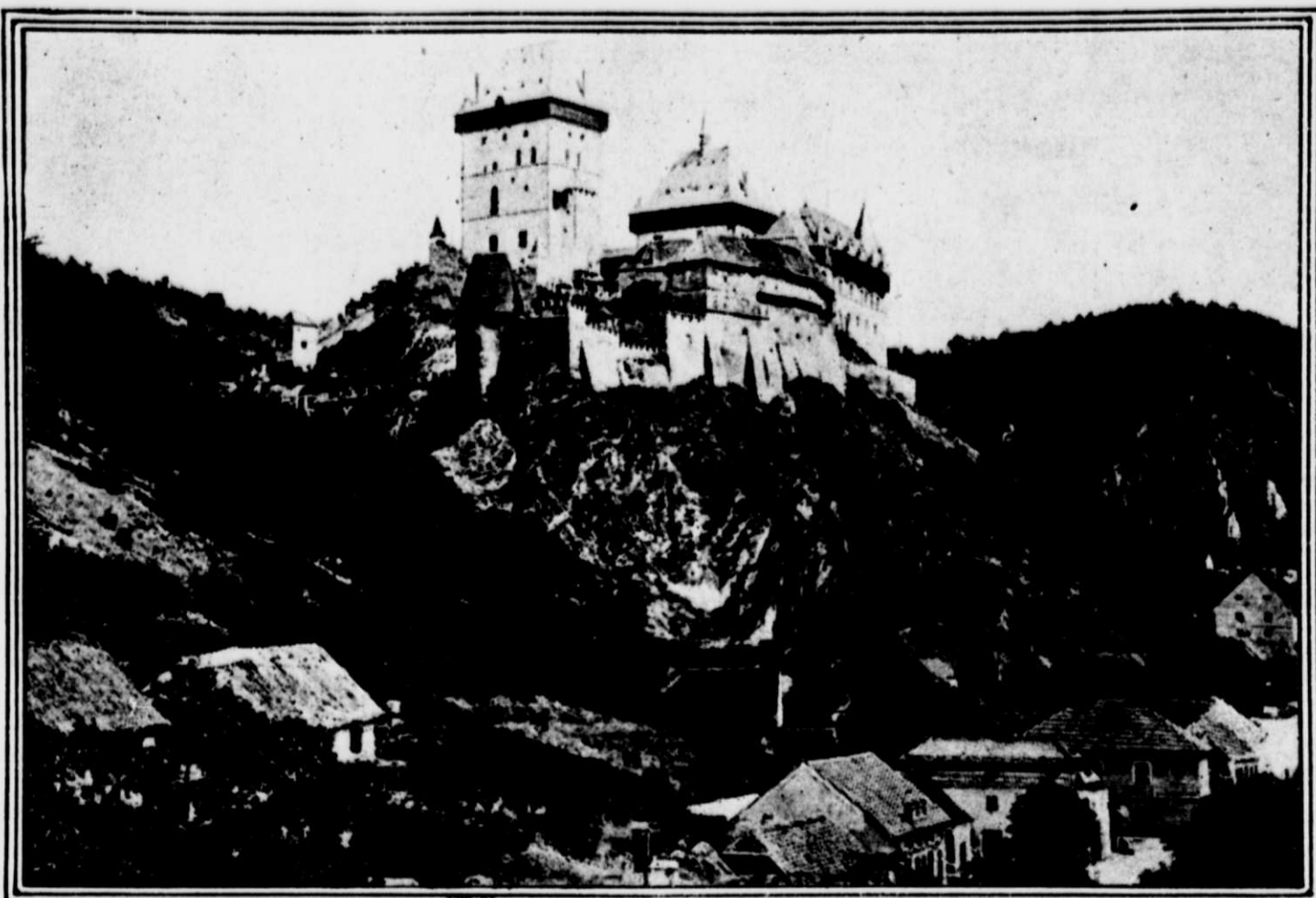


AUSTRIA-HUNGARY'S COMMERCE NOT A WAR PRIZE



A castle in Bohemia, Karlstein.

Country May Lose Territory by War, but Loss of Trade Will Not Become Permanent

By CHARLES M. PEPPER.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY has been picked by the prophets as a sure loser by the war. This relates to the presumptive loss of territory. It is assumed there also will be a great loss of trade. This assumption is not warranted by the nature of the Austrian industries.

Flags may be changed, but the products for which Austria is noted will not be altered. The temporary loss from the war through the interruption of industries is, of course, appalling. But this does not mean permanent loss or a shifting to other countries in a large degree of the trade which is now compassed within the borders of the dual monarchy.

Austria is similar to France in many of its industries. It produces high class specialties, which the rest of the world may get along without for a year or so, but the manufacturing basis of these specialties is not easily transferable. Many of them are the product of cottage or household industries.

Among the Austrian specialties are Bohemian glass, Carlsbad china, dress fasteners, syphon bottles, imitation precious stones, musical toys, Christmas tree ornaments, beads, gold and silver mounted leather goods, women's purses, fine shoes, bentwood furniture, artistic woolen goods, fancy colored knit goods, pearl shell ware, passementerie, meerschman pipes, velours and other felt hats, porcelain and travelers' requisites. The red fez worn by the Mohammedan population of the Mediterranean countries are made in Austria.

The aggregate of these articles and similar commodities forms a surprisingly large proportion of the \$600,000,000 of Austro-Hungarian exports. Manufacturers who undertake to turn out specialties of this class know the difficulty of creating new industries. In a few instances the shutting off of these articles on account of the war may result in an ultimate loss of trade to the territory of what is now Austria-Hungary, but the industrial life of the region will not be snuffed out.

British manufacturers were reported to be pushing the manufacture of lead pencils, because the Austrian factories were unable to reach the world market. It may be that after a year or two the Britons will have their own lead pencil market for their own factories, but this is only an isolated case.

The Austrian industries in their diversity reflect very largely the diversity of the different races and peoples of Austro-Hungarian exports. Manufacturers of the dual monarchy—Teutons, Czechs, Magyars and Slavs. If any division of present territory takes place the different industries will remain rooted. They cannot be transferred by partition treaties or international agreements.

In many cases they are due to the possession of certain natural resources. In other instances they are the growth of generations of industrial life. Original inventive genius with practical application also has its place. Budapest was the first city in the world to utilize electrical traction by the underground system.

Bohemian products are the best known in the world's markets. How far ahead the antagonism of the Czechs to the Teutons will lead the Bohemian population in the tribulations of the Austrian empire no one can now venture to predict, but an unmistakable tendency is to secure greater recognition for Bohemian products independent of any relation to Austria.

Bohemian decorated and engraved glassware is a chapter in itself, and has made the Czech industries better known than almost any other product. Decorated chinaware, pearl shell ware and a variety of similar articles are also Bohemian products which have a worldwide reputation.

Gratz and Schonbach are centers for the manufacture of musical toys which reach every corner of the globe. Reichenberg, which is a section of northern Bohemia, has a reputation which is universal for specialties in porcelain and pottery, linens, textiles and imitation precious stones.

The Glatz district is the largest producer of cheap jewelry of artistic design. This is an inherited industrial skill, for it dates back to the Middle Ages.

Prague, as the centre of industrial life, takes the leading place in the high class textile specialties for which Bohemia is noted. It has the largest cotton spinnery in the dual kingdom. Both

the cotton textiles and the linen goods of Bohemia have special qualities known to world trade.

Handmade lace is a cottage industry of the mountain districts. These are a few illustrations of the special manufactures whose output will only suffer temporary interruption on account of the war.

Bohemia also has natural resources in the way of coal and iron ore, which furnish a basis for some minor iron and steel industries that include locomotives, steam engines and various kinds of machinery. Bohemian hops are the staple supply of some great breweries whose product is sent abroad, while large quantities of hops are also taken by foreign breweries. War can interfere with this traffic only for a brief period. The same is true of mineral water and mineral salts.

Hungary is the agricultural section of the dual monarchy, although it has coal and iron ore mines, which form the basis of a minor iron and steel industry and also of an agricultural implement industry. Its grain fields, however, are of supreme importance, since in ordinary years there is a large surplus stock of wheat, barley, rye, oats, corn and potatoes for export.

The beet area is also a large one and the bulk of the beet sugar produced in the dual monarchy comes from Hungary. When the war broke out the agricultural exports approximated \$300,000,000. This was double the amount ten years previously and was a tribute to the Government policy in stimulating and developing agriculture.

The most valuable natural resource of Austria-Hungary is petroleum. The oil wells of Galicia have been an important factor in the trade and industry of the country. The investments made by Berlin banks in these oil wells was a motive in the effort of the German Government to drive out the Standard Oil Company. The possibility of Russia absorbing Galicia must, therefore, be disquieting to Germany as well as to Austria.

While the dual monarchy has natural resources of coal, iron ore, oil and some other minerals, these are not extensive enough to furnish the foundation for extensive national industries. The textile industries are by far the most important, and they are dependent on imported raw material.

In a normal year, when there is no boom, but when the factories are reasonably active, Austria imports about 250,000 tons of raw cotton, cotton yarn and cotton waste, as well as a small quantity of crude cotton goods, which are made up into the finer fabrics. The United States supplies the bulk of this cotton, about two-thirds of it. After that comes India, and then Egypt.

Raw wool and crude woollens are imported to the value of \$50,000,000 and upward. Argentina and Australia supply the bulk of the raw wool in the proportion of two tons from Argentina to one ton from Australia.

In its foreign commerce Austria-Hungary hardly can be considered a world factor in the sense of overseas trade, especially in the neutral markets of Latin America and the Orient. Its commerce is largely continental commerce since its trade is with neighboring countries.

Germany dominates Austria commercially just as it does politically. Ordinarily one-third of the imports are from Germany, and Germany absorbs part of the exports for redistribution to other countries. Hamburg is the convenient port for a large section of Austria and dominates it commercially and financially.

It was remarked by one of the American consuls in a report that in Austrian trade Germany was both principal and agent, since German firms conducted manufacturing, banking, shipping and commercial business of gigantic importance within its boundaries. Germany has been the middleman commercially between Austria-Hungary and the outside world.

This is a fact of moment in the readjustment of Austria's foreign trade which may result from the war. If Germany is defeated Austria suffers not only as a political ally but as a commercial ward as well.

The Balkan trade is the most important stake involved in the present war. The Balkans supply part of the raw materials that enter into the Austrian industry and the bulk of the foodstuffs that are imported come from the same source. The Balkans also take large quantities of Austrian products, particularly machinery.

Exports to Rumania, Bulgaria, Servia, Greece, Montenegro and European Tur-

key reach \$70,000,000, and the market is one chiefly for manufactured articles. Servia when the war is over will not be compelled to submit to the control of her agricultural products that hitherto Austria has been able to impose by means of hostile tariffs and by shutting her off from access to other markets. Others of the Balkan States have not suffered quite in the same proportion, because they are differently situated, but any kind of Balkan political coalition will keep in mind the commercial relations. This, however, is not apt to affect the sale of Austrian manufactured products.

Whether Hungary is to remain a part of the Austrian empire is a question for the future, but it is one of considerable commercial importance. The hatred of the Magyars for the Serbs caused them to enter very heartily into the war which Teutonic Austria declared against Serbia. The feeling extends to the other Slav populations, as is shown by the Hungarian attitude toward the Slovaks and Croats who are part of Hungary.

Yet a condition may arise where Hungary will no longer be a part politically of Austria. Commercially at present it is practically independent of Austria. While the Austro-Hungarian tariff applies to all the world, in so far as relates to imports into the dual kingdom, in their relations Austria and Hungary are not a single nation. Though there is no frontier custom house, Hungary has its own statistics of foreign commerce and its own trade balance.

For example, the total foreign trade in 1913 exceeded \$800,000,000, and of this "foreign trade" 70 per cent. in both exports and imports was credited to Austria. Some of this trade was transit commerce.

Hungary enjoys the benefits of a protective tariff in so far as its industries go, for the Austrian tariff is protective in many features. Hungary goes further, however, and has a national policy of its own for stimulating domestic industries. The state subsidized glove manufacturing and some other manufactures.

Trade relations between the United States and the dual monarchy have never been extensive, yet they are important. Austria must have certain raw products, such as cotton and copper, which the United States is best able to furnish.

On the other hand the iron furnaces of this country call for Austrian magnetite in large quantities as they can get it and the importations in peace times are \$1,000,000 and upward. Bohemian hops are also a necessity to American brewers, although Pilsener beer, which is imported in large quantities, might be dispensed with.

American iron furnaces and breweries feel the interruption to commerce due to the war almost as severely as do the Austrian textile mills and electrical industries, which are dependent on the United States for cotton and copper.

The Austrian Government in its tobacco monopoly draws on Virginia. There is a demand in some of the Austrian industries for asbestos material which has been treated in the United States, although Canada is the source of the supply of crude asbestos.

The balance of trade is always largely in favor of the United States, because of the preponderance of raw materials which Austria consumes.

It was an Austrian statesman who on two occasions proposed a European customs union against the United States. The simple fact, however, is that the bulk of the Austrian exports to the United States, with the exception of machinery and hops, are highly finished articles which are in the nature of luxuries and which are subject to higher tariff duties than account. Whichever party has been in power in

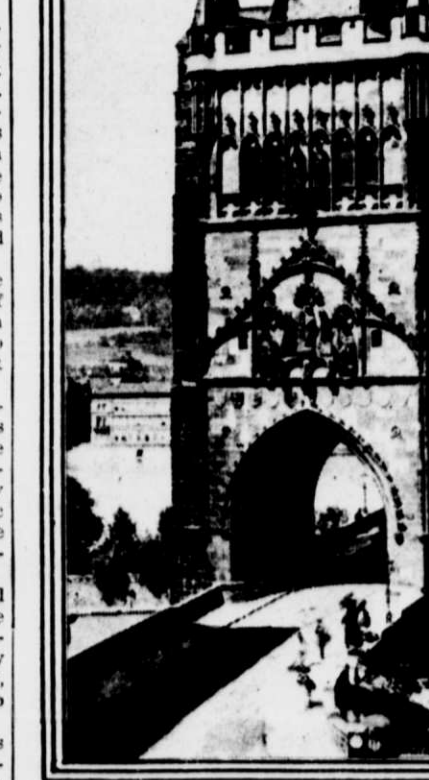


The Bourse and Plaza at Trieste.

Congress and has enacted tariff legislation it has been unable to satisfy the Austrian desire for low duties on highly finished articles.

Nearly one-half the exports to the United States are from the Vienna district. The Adriatic provinces do not contribute a large amount.

Bohemia, through Prague as a distributing centre, contributes about half as much as Vienna. Beer and hops from Bohemia form by far the largest single item, but there are many specialties.



The Old City Bridge Tower at Prague.

The Carlsbad district sends the bulk of the chinaware, while Reichenberg contributes imitation precious stones to the amount of \$500,000 and beads to the amount of \$300,000. Most of the glass and ivory buttons also come from this district, their value exceeding \$600,000. Half a million dollars worth of fine linens is also contributed by Reichenberg.

When the war is over the trade relations between the United States and Austria are apt to follow along the same lines as at present. Hops and beer and magnetite will be wanted by the breweries and iron furnaces and the general public will continue to buy Austrian specialties in highly finished and artistic articles. Austria on her part will continue to take cotton and copper, tobacco and resin.

The real question is whether or not Austria shall remain in possession of Trieste. There have been hints that the allies were ready to pay a big price for Italy's neutrality, and even that Trieste might be one consideration.

Italians never have been satisfied with the failure to get Trieste back when Austria was compelled to yield Venice.

The Italian population is large, and Austria never has succeeded in developing a friendly feeling on the part of this population. The municipality is Italian and the municipal officers frequently refuse to speak German.

An American resident of Trieste once was roundly abused by the local tax collector because he addressed the collector in German instead of in Italian. There is an Italian society in Trieste whose avowed purpose is to secure the return of the Adriatic entrepot to Italy.

Its activities are open and the Austrian Government has found it more convenient to ignore the existence of the society than to suppress it.

This is the sentimental side of the subject, but it has a direct bearing on the question of commerce. The announced purpose of Great Britain is to sweep the German merchant marine from the seas and regain control of the foreign markets which Germany has invaded to the detriment of British products.

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Trieste is an outlet for south Germany as well as for Austria. With Trieste as outlet instead of an Austrian seaport German goods would be less likely to seek this outlet and German vessels would not seek for cargo there. By dispossessing Austria of Trieste England would be able to interfere seriously with German commerce. Austrian commerce in competition with her own trade she does not fear, because Austria sends so little to the neutral markets of the world.

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ing sublimity no lofty dome or spire or column built by human hands could convey.

The Gothic interior of the finest cathedrals have this note, but here it vibrates in the ether itself. The lowering clouds of the dark day, seem only to bring heaven nearer. Around are a host of stone lanterns like witnesses of light. To the left above the Niomon rise the dark gray roofs of the temple with a blazon of gold on roof edges and roof trees. Here is the treasury of the shrine and other offices with noted carvings, all rich in color.

We cannot stay to look at them now for our eyes have rested on a small structure, the abutment which remains in memory as the gem of all. The baldachin above the great granite basin where pilgrims wash lips and hands is supported by twelve white monolithic columns engaged in sockets of hammered metal with beautifully refined patterns. White and black in every shade mingle in the superstructure with tinted carvings of dragons under a roof perhaps the most graceful in the world, for it shows that curve of portico front and complementary under decoration which I hold to be the most striking contribution to the beautiful in architecture in Japan; the curve of gable and the heavy decorated roof tree being the other.

It is long to linger here, for may we not recur to it? So we pass the library of the Sacred Books and ascend to the second plateau up twenty-two steps. Here are the House of the Bell and the House of the Drum before cryptomerias measuring twenty-five feet at the base. Here is the Yahushi-do, a marvel of arabesque, carvings and mighty gilded columns with the richest colorings and treasure shrines, and the curiosity of the crying Dragon—a pictured one on the ceiling which emits a strange crackling sound when you clasp your hands as you stand under the head.

We mount to the third terrace and find ourselves before the exquisite Yomel-mon. Who can describe the fineness, the complication, the coloring of the carving in this gate? It is called the "Morning till Night gate," as you might study it all day and still find beauty in it. Here is the Kazura den, a lovely surutani where a priestess dances at times, and the dance hall with a fine porch and facade and the Panquin house where festival accessories are stored.

But still the cryptomerias rise and we pass to the fourth terrace and come upon the Karamon or Chinese gate, the daintiest and most finely carved of all the surprising portals. Its beauties haunt one long after. And now on the plateau we have reached the highest point of the temple, for here is the golden Honden or oratory whose interior is ablaze with refined color among the gilding and glory of the patterns and designs.

The priests receive us. We take off our shoes. From the outer golden hall we are led to an inner shrine of gold, the Holy of Holies, it is called. A priest flings a vestment of green brocade upon my shoulders and others on the shoulders of those with me. The voices of chanting choristers are heard intoning prayers. Priests in gorgeous vestments of white and pale Asagi blue cross a raised platform at the back, and one comes past us handing to each a small earthen cup of sacred wine.

It was all like a dream of heaven ascending color and glow, and left one at a loss to separate and sift the charm and delight and something of the awe of it. If one had only an atom of belief in it one might well be swayed to any end by its appeal. As it was with me, the impression remained of a great art new to me, wonderful in its results and its defiances and the traces of a faith wholly national allied to a ritual of awe. Take my word for it, Nikko is superb and its mountain mausoleum temples have a deep, deep art rhythm and something of a soul.

I went up afterward to the Shogun's grave 200 steps still higher. It was plain for all the piled up splendors down below.

I have trod the temple passages of Kyoto and have drunk in the sylvan beauty of the temples at Nara. I have sat in thought before the giant Buddha that stands in the open air at Kamakura, but only at Nikko did what I felt to be the true rhythm of the Nippon temples come to me. And at Nara on a day of cloud and rain it was the rhythm of a dance. For some small sum at the high temples there one may see it. The more I pause the more that dance, Priests—and priestesses—must live.

At any rate two thin and moldering priests took their seats at the side of the little leanto and one played on a wheezy, cracked flute and the other twanged a samisen, but they kept their dolorous melody in perfect time. Three women of the temple in richly flowing court dresses of Shinto, white with the twelve folds of scarlet showing at the bottom, came with slow step from behind the screen and out on the little platform of bare and worn planks. The first was tall and handsome and erect, the two others short and otherwise insignificant. After I glanced them over I saw only the first—the priestess with the marble face and the large, ardent, unfathomable eyes—the eyes of the East fixed on some horizon where her great gods sat in the twilight calm.

The dance was hieratic—short, measured steps forward, then backward and turning on the heel with slow, beautiful movement of the arms. First she moved without any adjunct, then with a fan she drew from her bosom, waving it in gestures of majesty. Lastly, coming forward, she knelt before a large stand and took up a short staff hung with small silver bells and from which hung long streams of crimson and white. This she held up and raised the bells in many graceful postures. Kneeling down she replaced the staff, a low obeisance and it was over.

Was it the rhythm of the sad music of the priests or her perfect, undulating grace or the clear eyes fixed at a point while her whole body swayed? I know not, but the dawn of old Asia was thrilling under the dripping trees.

How Japan Seeks the Keys of the Next World

Continued from Eleventh Page.

In other materials. The Chonin temple of gratitude in the same city shows something of this.

The temple stands on a hill. There is a splendid gate of entrance to the grounds and long lines of stone lanterns of many designs lichen with age line the broad upward path. There are two paths of ascent, one up a sheer vertiginous flight of steps, another winding upward at an easy gradient—the lady's steps, which no determined pilgrim would take, but I did, both steps embowered in fine old trees.

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Peristyle of Dioclesian's Palace at Spalato, Dalmatia.

Dalyagawa, chanting its crystal psalm over the blue rocks some thirty feet below, and with the Sacred Bridge in its curve of crimson lacquer, which only Emperors and such can tread, a few rods away, but striking a loud note upon the green that crowds everywhere under the soft gray sky.

We enter on the sacred way up a flight of stone steps, turn to the left on a gently ascending path between the cryptomerias. Our thoughts are lifting with them. In a little while, say the distance of a quarter of a mile, you turn again, taking your last glance down to the river bed we have been skirting as we rose. The view is fine, and the sense of depth to the stream and distance over the green valley to the dim mountains beyond enhances the thought of height.

We are mounting higher still and the cryptomerias rise higher and bulk larger as we go. We pass an imperial palace on a small plateau to the left. At last we face a long straight rise, a magnificent broad avenue up the mountain, the kings of the cryptomerias on either side, and the people coming and going, now a band of pilgrims, now a group of laughing temple workers, women with baskets yoked to their backs, now a group of priests, looking priestly here beneath the giant trees.

Afar we see a gray torii rise to close the view and be the stately portal to the Ieyasu shrine, for all this pomp of path and lofty trees and temples beyond is set before the grave on the mountain top of the greatest of the shoguns—a mighty, a human, and at times a merciless man.

At last we pass beneath the torii and find ourselves on a plateau, to the left a high pagoda with its five stories in red and gold e